

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 757

By Armstrong

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Dennis S. Freeman on his commitment and creativity in improving access to quality integrated health care to underserved and vulnerable Tennessee residents.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Dennis S. Freeman, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer of Cherokee Health Systems; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Freeman provides leadership to his company, community, state and country with compassion, selflessness, creativity, insight, innovation and humility; and

WHEREAS, under his leadership, Cherokee Health Systems became one of the first integrated Community Mental Health and Community Health Centers in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Freeman has served as a leader through the Tennessee Primary Care Association in supporting integration of behavioral health services within community health centers; and

WHEREAS, Cherokee Health Systems' integrated care plan, The Behaviorally-Enhanced Health care home, is now recognized throughout the country as an efficient and effective care model that adds behavioral health intervention options to the medical treatment plan; and

WHEREAS, in turbulent economic times, Cherokee Health Systems stayed true to its mission to serve everyone, regardless of their economic situation, when similar organizations shifted their mission to accommodate fiscal priorities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Freeman continues to practice as a clinical psychologist, staying involved in the provision of service for the patient population served; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Dennis S. Freeman, Ph.D., for his dedication to the people of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Dennis S. Freeman for his commitment and creativity in improving access to quality integrated health care to underserved and vulnerable Tennessee residents, thank him for his meritorious service to the state of Tennessee, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.